

**EXHIBIT A**

Patent  
Attorney Docket No.: 54989US002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: Rusin, Richard P.

Application No.: 09/383560

Group Art Unit: 3732

Filed: August 26, 1999

Examiner: R. Lewis

Title: CERAMIC DENTAL MILL BLANKS

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.136(A)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to (703) 305-3590 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:	
December 7, 2001	<i>Michelle L. Murphy</i>
Date	Signed by: Michelle L. Murphy

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated June 22, 2001, for three (3) months from September 22, 2001 to December 22, 2001. Please charge the fee provided in:

- ☐ 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(1) Extension for response within first month  
☐ 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(2) Extension for response within second month  
☒ 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3) Extension for response within third month  
☐ 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(4) Extension for response within fourth month

to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. Please also charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked DUPLICATE is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

December 7, 2001  
Date

By: *Steven E. Skolnick*  
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